

exo- ('eksəʊ; before two unstressed syllables ɛk'sɒ), *prefix*¹ (before a vowel sometimes reduced to *ex-*), repr. Gr. ἔξω, without, in many compounds of modern formation, as **exarte'ritis**, **exo-arte'ritis** [see ARTERITIS], *Path.*, inflammation of the outer coat of an artery; **exoatmos'pheric** *a.*, occurring or working outside the atmosphere; **exobi'ology** (see quot. 1960); hence **exobi'ologist**;

1966 *Economist* 5 Mar. 898/1 A 'new, long-range *exoatmospheric interceptor' to which the short-range Sprint missile would be a supplement. 1967 *Listener* 9 Feb. 185/2 The resulting pulse of radiation should make almost everything in range boil; this would happen beyond the atmosphere and the principle is called exoatmospheric interception. 1964 *New Scientist* 26 Nov. 573/2 One of the greatest difficulties the *exobiologists are up against is that of making sure that their equipment does not carry any extraneous terrestrial bacteria. 1969 *New Yorker* 12 Apr. 85/1 Exobiologists will be looking for traces of life on the moon. 1960 *Daily Tel.* 14 Jan. 11/1 Dr. Lederberg is building up a team for work on *exobiology, as this branch of the study of life on other planets is called. 1960 *Space Research* 1. 1153 The problems of exobiology have important applications for the development of theoretical biology and the understanding of the mechanism of the evolution of life.